

Clean Set of Claims

C1 sub 7  
D1

1. A telephone answering device, comprising:  
a telephone line interface;  
a controller;  
voice message memory adapted to store a plurality of voice messages; and  
a secured message authorization module adapted to allow a party calling said telephone answering device to leave a voice message to separately secure in a single mailbox said voice message for access only by a user authorized to play back said voice message.

C2  
sub 7  
D1

11. A method for securing a voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device, comprising:  
prompting a party calling said telephone answering device to leave a voice message to enter an authorized security code;  
comparing an entered authorized security code to at least one pre-stored authorized security code accessible by said telephone answering device;  
and  
upon matching said entered authorized security code with said at least one pre-stored authorized security code, securing in a single mailbox a recorded voice message for access only by a user authorized to play back said voice message.

C3  
307  
D1

16. A method for accessing a secured voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device, comprising:

prompting a user of said telephone answering device to enter an authorized security code on a voice message-by-voice message basis for voice messages secured by a calling party;

comparing an entered authorized security code to at least one pre-stored authorized security code associated with said voice messages by a calling party while leaving a message; and

upon matching said entered authorized security code with said at least one pre-stored authorized security code, allowing said user access to an underlying voice message secured in a single mailbox of said telephone answering device.

C4  
307  
D1

18. Apparatus for securing a voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device, comprising:

means for prompting a party calling said telephone answering device to enter an authorized security code;

means for comparing an entered authorized security code to at least one pre-stored authorized security code associated with said voice messages by a calling party while leaving a message; and

means for securing in a single mailbox a recorded voice message for access only by a user authorized to play back said voice message, upon matching said entered authorized security code with said at least one pre-stored authorized security code.

CS 3057  
DI

23. (Three Times Amended) Apparatus for accessing a secured voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device, comprising:

- means for prompting a user of said telephone answering device to enter an authorized security code on a voice message-by-voice message basis for voice messages secured by a calling party;
- means for comparing an entered authorized security code to at least one pre-stored authorized security code associated with said voice messages by a calling party while leaving a message; and
- means for allowing said user access to an underlying voice message secured in a single mailbox, upon matching said entered authorized security code with said at least one pre-stored authorized security code.